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JANUARY 22, 1906.

BIG CONFERENCE TO ARRANGE MONSTER DEMONSTRATION MEETS IN NEW YORK CITY—SEVENTY DELEGATES ATTEND.

Thirty Organizations Represented—Determination to Push Plan—Successful Issue Evidenced by All—English, Russian, Jewish and Italian Speakers to Address Revolutionary Audience—More Letters Received, and Cities Heard from.

The first conference, called by Section New York, Socialist Labor Party, to arrange a monster demonstration to be held on January 22, at Grand Central Palace, to affirm the solidarity of the American working class with that of Russia, and to give the latter both moral and financial support, showed, by the large number of delegates present (70), representing 30 working class organizations, that January 22 will be a memorable day in the history of the Socialist movement.

The organizations reported on favorably by the Credential Committee were: Socialist Labor Party Sub-Divisions: First, Third and Fifth A. D.'s, Sixth and Tenth A. D.'s, Eighth and Twelfth A. D.'s, Sixteenth A. D., Nineteenth and Twenty-first A. D.'s, Twenty-second and Twenty-fourth A. D.'s, Twenty-sixth A. D., Thirty-third A. D., Thirty-fifth A. D.; Brooklyn: Sixteenth A. D.; the Excelsior Educational Society; Italian Socialist Federation, Socialist Labor Club, Hungarian Socialist Organization, S. L. P. Educational Club.

The following branches of the Industrial Workers of the World and other progressive labor organizations also had delegates seated: Garment Workers' Local 6, Hotel Workers, Local 130, International Musical Union, Machinists' Local, Cigar Workers' Local, Store and Office Workers, Local 38, Building Trades, Local 93, Capmakers, Local 177, Ladies Tailors' Local, Bronx Industrial Union, Coat Makers' Local (Brooklyn), Local 401, Brotherhood of Painters, Decorators and Paper Hangers, and the Independent Cloak and Skirt Makers' Union.

The conference organized itself with the following officers:

J. Scherer, Thirty-fourth A. D., S. L. P., president; P. Augustine, Building Trades Local, I. W. W., vice-president; L. Pilout, secretary, and H. Dobatsky, sergeant-at-arms.

The first thing taken up for discussion was the question of "How best to promote the success of the January 22 demonstration." The delegate of the Independent Cloak and Skirt Makers' Union presented a recommendation from that union, that the Socialist party be invited to assist in arranging the demonstration. After considerable discussion it was decided to elect a committee to draft an invitation to Socialist branches and other labor organizations, asking them to participate in the demonstration.

The matter of how to advertise the demonstration most effectively was next taken up and discussed. It was decided to elect a committee of three, one speaking English, one Italian, and one Jewish, to draw up short circulars in these languages. The Italian delegate stated that his organization would distribute at least twenty thousand circulars in the Italian language. The committee elected were Abel Fanchi, 79 McDougal street, Samuel French, 397 Willis avenue, and S. Moskowitz, 123 Columbia street.

It was further decided to engage five speakers, as follows: two English speakers to make the principal addresses, and also a Jewish, an Italian and a Russian speaker to make short speeches in their respective languages. The city executive committee of Section New York, S. L. P., was authorized to select the speakers.

A motion was passed that the delegates impress upon their respective organizations the necessity of the organizations' making immediate donations to defray the expenses of the demonstration. Lazarus Abelson, organizer of Section New York, was elected treasurer.

A committee was elected to visit the Musicians' Union, to ask them to volunteer to furnish music for the opening of the meeting.

The collection taken to defray the expenses of the conference amounted to \$4.

The next conference will take place on Sunday, January 14, 2 p. m., at the same place, Manhattan Lyceum Annex, 15 East Third street. Those organizations which failed to elect delegates and those delegates who failed to attend, are requested not to fail at the next conference, as there is still a great

WEEKLY PEOPLE



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JANUARY 22, 1906.

London Letter

ON THE COLLAPSE OF THE TORY GOVERNMENT.

The English Electoral Situation, and What It Signifies to Capitalists and Workers—Activity of British S. L. P.

(Special Correspondence.)

London, Dec. 25.—The expected has happened. The Tory Government has handed in its cheques. It has dominated this glorious empire on whose bright expanse the sun never casts its spots, ever since 1886, with the exception of the brief period of the weak, tottering Rosebery-Gladstone administration (1892-95). Even if we take the short-lived Home Rule parliament into consideration, its uninterrupted term of office since then represents a longer stretch of power than any party has held, since the passing of the Reform Act of 1832. Not since the dark days of the reaction during the French Revolution and the Napoleonic wars, the days of the Anti-Jacobins and the White Terrorists, of Burke, Pitt and George III. of Braxfield and Dundas, has any party or any government ruled so long, or with a more powerful and decisive majority.

During that term it has painted the map of South Africa red with the blood of the proletarian Briton and the Boer Afrikaner. It has created desolation and called it peace. It has brought about the death of millions of Hindus by its Government-manufactured famines in India, and built up for itself in the pages of the history of that hapless land a monument compared with which Tamburlaine's pyramid of skulls pales into insignificance. Its twenty years' reign has been a period of growth and solidification for the capitalist class. It has seen the genesis of the Trust system in Britain. The power of the great capitalist has increased enormously; the small producers have died off like flies and the worker has been thrust deeper and deeper down into the mire of servitude. There are close on a million men unemployed throughout the country.

The tables have been turned completely upon the old Liberal Party. They are politically descended from the parliament men who fought the battle of the Third Estate against the monarchy; from Oliver Cromwell's puritans who brought "the man Charles Stuart" to the scaffold and founded a republic; from the democratic radicals of the late 18th and early 19th century who passed the Reform Acts which thrust the semi-feudal landed aristocracy from their seats as rulers of the realm and enthroned the capitalists in their stead. Originally the party of progress, it has now fallen to the position of champion of little middle class reaction.

The Tory party has also an ancient ancestry. The Tories are the successors of the cavaliers who fought by the King's side at Naseby and Marston Moor; of the Jacobite squires who drank the health of the "King across the water," and went "out" in the rebellions of 1715 and 1745 for the hopeless cause of the exiled Stuart pretenders; of the "good, old English gentlemen," those gouty, crusty, apoplectic land owners, who supported that pigheaded idiot George III. in his brilliant colonial policy and whose sole contribution to political discussion was to thump the floor with their sticks and say "Dammme, sir!" Sprung from an ancestry of reactionists, obscuranists and fanatical defenders of lost causes, the Tories are to-day the party of advanced capitalism.

It came about in this way. The reform acts and the repeal of the Corn Laws broke the back of the landed aristocracy, the first politically, the second economically. From being the rulers of the realm with the House of Peers exclusively theirs and with two-thirds of the representation in the House of Commons in their breeches pocket, they sank to the position of a faction of the propertied classes—a favored faction it might be, but none the less a faction only. At this point the Tory party had the choice either of pursuing its old course as if nothing had happened and becoming a back number in consequence, or of attaching itself to the new economic interests, hiring itself out to new masters, so to speak. It chose the latter alternative. Under the leadership first of Peel, and secondly of Disraeli, by far the greatest capitalist statesmen of the 19th century, the Tory Party became transformed into a powerful and efficient agent of capitalist interests. Since the

middle of the nineteenth century the large capitalists have bit by bit transferred their allegiance to the Tories, leaving the Liberals with merely the middle class rump. The Liberal Party's position appears to be analogous to that of the Democrats in the States. It is a Cave of Adullam, a heterogeneous collection of little middle class factions, struggling hopelessly against the stream, ground to powder between the upper and nether millstones of the big capitalists and the working class, possessing all the vices of capitalism, when in power doing in the long run all that a Tory Government would have done, but doing it tardily and ineffectively. The Home Rule Bill forced upon the Liberals in 1885 by the Irish Nationalists completed the process of Liberal disintegration. This policy further alienated the big capitalists, firstly because it ran counter to the new imperialism and secondly because a considerable amount of English capital was sunk in Ireland in the form of mortgages on the land of absentee landlords, which might have been endangered had autonomy been granted to the Irish people. This was the date of the Liberal Unionist secession, a blow from which the Liberal Party has never recovered. At this stage, Mr. Joseph Chamberlain, formerly the Jack Cade of the radical party, republican, anti-clerical and anti-landlord, left the Liberals and became the virtual leader of the Conservatives, the friend of archbishops, dukes and duchesses, the subsidizer of the landed aristocracy, and of the church, the apostle of imperialism, the mad mullah of a hundred "little wars" and one big war for the spread of British commerce.

Chamberlain is the genius of English capitalism. He is a perfect type of the class he represents. He is cynically immoral in deed, and hypocritically "moral" in speech. Coarse, brutal, vulgar, avowedly mendacious, his growth in power has been synchronous with the increasing degradation and debasement of English politics. He is an invaluable leader of the capitalists. Were I a capitalist, instead of being a proletarian, I should put all my money on Joe. Through a hundred political transmutations he has always managed to scent out the policy most advantageous to his class at each particular juncture, irrespective of his past deeds or utterances. The baffled and battered Liberals seek, every now and then, to console themselves and (vain thought) make Joseph blush, by comparing his past with his present speeches and declarations. Chamberlain, unperturbed, accepts this as a tribute to his greatness, as a proof that he has changed with the times, that he has advanced as the resources and requirements of his class have advanced.

His latest project is Tariff Reform, in other words, protection. The true inwardness of this proposal and the economic interests at the back of it, have been so clearly set forth in a speech by Arthur Balfour at Newcastle the other week that I cannot do better than quote it. Balfour (late prime minister) does not go so far on the path of protection as Chamberlain. He is an Erasmus to Chamberlain's Luther. None the less the whole philosophy of Tariff Reform, whether it be limited to retaliation a la Balfour, or take the form of uncompromising protection a la Chamberlain, is contained in the following declaration:

"There may be members of the party who do not share to the full my views with regard to certain modern industrial developments, who may not feel

WW HEADQUARTERS

CHARTER NINETEEN NEW LOCALS—DEPARTMENTS STEADILY GROWING.

New Industrial Councils Forming—Chicago Arranges Monster January 22 Demonstration—"The Industrial Worker" Goes to Press.

(Special Correspondence.)

Chicago, Jan. 7.—The following list of charters were granted to locals since my last report: Cloak Makers, Cleveland, O.; Broad Silk Weavers, Paterson, N. J.; Iron Workers, Brooklyn, N. Y.; Carriage and Wagon Workers, Cincinnati, O.; Bakery Workers, Wichita, Kan.; Jewish Ladies Tailors, New York; Bricklayers, Cleveland, O.; Men's Tailors, Chicago, Ill.; Teamsters, Wichita, Kan.; Cigar Makers, Milwaukee, Wis.; Garbage Workers, Spokane, Wash.; Pioneer Mixed, Oakland, Cal., and Pittsburgh, Pa.; Mixed, Evansville, Ind., Montreal, Can., Newport, N. J., Trinidad, Col., Baltimore, Md., and Kalamazoo, Mich.

The Transportation Department reports large local chartered in Jersey City, N. J., and a steady increase throughout the Department.

The Metal Department reports a new local at Cincinnati, O.

A number of new industrial Councils are being formed in cities where there are a number of I. W. W. locals.

The Industrial Council of Chicago, Ill., has arranged a monster demonstration for the Russian Revolutionists. They have secured Aurora Hall for Jan. 22, (Red Sunday). The hall has a large seating capacity and will surely be filled to the doors. Reinstein, of Buffalo, will be the main speaker. He will be assisted by a number of local speakers.

The A. F. of L. lost a golden opportunity when it failed to organize the Garbage Workers of Spokane. Here was one organization Uncle Sammie (sic) could have pointed to with pride, as it is impossible for them to have jurisdiction squabbles unless it would be with the rag pickers. However "Sammie" can watch out in the future and capture them in other places.

The organ of the I. W. W.—"The Industrial Worker" will go to press this week. It will be a sixteen page paper and some of the best writers in the country will contribute to its columns.

Rex.

DEBS ON NEW YORK AFFAIRS.

[The following passage from an article by Eugene V. Debs in the current issue of the Chicago "Socialist" fits the A. F. of L. capitalist leaders exactly.]

The cry has gone up in New York that the Industrial Workers is organizing scabs. The charge, needless to say, is absolutely false. It is the croak of the grifter, or nest of grifters, that have been uncovered. It is the last appeal to their dupes. The grafting little leaders who make this cry do not dare to meet the officers of the Industrial Workers before the rank and file of the working class. The simple truth is that the disgusted unionists are deserting their old craft concerns, in which they have been repeatedly betrayed, and through which their leaders, in collusion with their bosses, have a mortgage on their bodies and souls—and are joining the Industrial Workers, and the moment they do this

BY THE PEUILLAR PROCESS OF REASONING OF THE GRAFTER, WHO SEES HIS BOOTY VANISHING, THEY BECOME SCABS. The fact is that they are the best of unionists, and this is proven in their determination to turn their backs upon unions that betray the working class, and their faces toward a revolutionary economic organization that has been organized to fight fakirs of all descriptions and emancipate the toilers of the nation from the hell of industrial slavery.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

The Weekly People of January 20th, containing Debs's speech, will go to press a day earlier than usual, and will be in the hands of readers pretty much all over the country by January 22nd, the date for holding demonstrations in commemoration of the butchery of our comrades, the proletariat of Russia. Sections and others, desiring to use that issue of the paper for propaganda purposes at their demonstrations should rush in their orders now.

The People is a good broom to brush the cobwebs from the minds of the workers. Buy a copy and pass it around.

(Continued on page 2.)

SCANDINAVIAN CONVENTION

GIVES ROUSING ENDORSEMENT TO THE INDUSTRIAL WORKERS OF THE WORLD AND THE SOCIALIST LABOR PARTY.

Recognizes the Two Organizations as Mutually Necessary to the Ultimate Emancipation of Labor—Resolves to Make its Press Party Owned, by Surrendering Entire Plant and Title to S. L. P.—Three Days of Energetic and Enthusiastic Work for Socialism.

The Scandinavian S. L. P. Federation met in convention at Emrich's Hall, 214 East 41st street, New York City, Dec. 30 and 31, 1905, and January 1st, last. The delegates assembled represented branches located at New York City, Boston, Springfield, Worcester, Lynn and Everett, Mass., Providence, R. I., Bridgeport, New Britain and Hartford, Conn.

This convention was the Federation's third annual, including the first one, at which the Federation was launched.

The convention was opened by the National Secretary, Fred Hanson. His opening remarks were very brief. He said: "Owing to the great volume of work before us, I deem it out of place to at this juncture make any lengthy remarks. You have all a fair conception of what we are here for. Let us, therefore, immediately organize this convention and go to work."

The convention reported a new industrial local chartered in Jersey City, N. J., and a steady increase throughout the Department.

The Metal Department reports a new local at Cincinnati, O.

A number of new industrial Councils are being formed in cities where there are a number of I. W. W. locals.

The Industrial Council of Chicago, Ill., has arranged a monster demonstration for the Russian Revolutionists. They have secured Aurora Hall for Jan. 22, (Red Sunday). The hall has a large seating capacity and will surely be filled to the doors. Reinstein, of Buffalo, will be the main speaker. He will be assisted by a number of local speakers.

The secretary's report over last year's work showed marked progress. Four branches had been added to the organization and two had lapsed.

Almost the entire first day was taken up by a discussion upon the following question:

"Is it a fact that our organization, by the agitation it carries on, supports the Socialist Movement and thus aids and strengthens the struggle for emancipation of the American proletariat?—or is it possible that this organization and its activity, owing to existing peculiar conditions, is harmful and works as a hindrance to the Labor Movement of America?"

The convention answered the question by the following resolution:

"We fully recognize that our emancipation, the emancipation of the American proletariat, is entirely dependent upon the industrial and political movements of the American proletariat, but we consider it necessary that an agitation for such a movement be carried on in the Scandinavian tongues. We therefore pledge ourselves to ever keep this American Movement in mind, to ever support it and ever carry on an agitation in our mother tongue for it. And we, here assembled delegates, do pledge ourselves to within our respective branches make it known to our comrades that their first duty is to participate in the work within the Industrial Workers of the World and the Socialist Labor Party. We hold, as a result of these premises, that our organization does aid the struggle for emancipation by the American proletariat."

The convention answered the question by the following resolution:

"We believe that, in the Industrial Workers of the World, we have found such an industrial organization and we therefore urge, yes, we deem it the bounden duty of every workingman who at least realizes that the working class both can and must liberate itself from this degrading system of wage slavery, to join the Industrial Workers of the World."

II.

"We hold that the political movement of Labor is and must be a true and clear reflex of the Labor Movement on the industrial field, based upon the same undeniable fact that the class struggle is absolutely inevitable."

"We further hold that no other way is open for the emancipation of the working class other than the road pointed out by Karl Marx, i. e., Socialism."

"We must, conscious of these facts, support with all means possible, that political party which clearly and uncompromisingly represents the above principles. We have in the Socialist Labor Party found such a political organization. We, therefore, declare it to be the bounden duty of every workingman to affiliate himself with and work for the Socialist Labor Party."

The convention adjourned at 5 p. m., New Year's Day with three ringing cheers for the S. L. P., the I. W. W., its own Federation and the Russian Revolution.

THIS IS A HUMMER; LET'S HAVE SOME MORE.

New York Labor News Co.—Inclosed find check for \$25, for which send 5,000 copies of the Weekly People of January 20th, that is, the issue containing Eugene V. Debs's speech on Industrial Unionism.

Section Allegheny County, Pa.,
Per F. A. Uhl,
Pittsburg, Pa., Jan. 1, 1906.

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The History of Slavery

[Extracts from a Lecture on "Idealism and Materialism in the Conception of History", by Paul Lafargue. Translated by the Edinburgh Socialist.]

Humanity is guided by the necessities of production and not by ideas of justice, conscious or unconscious; and as a demonstration of this I know of nothing more convincing than the history of slavery.

Slavery, according to the idealists, must both have been introduced by philanthropy and also abolished by philanthropy. Man must have ceased to eat his own kind from the time in which his heart began to glow with love of his fellow creature . . . In reality the cessation of cannibal feasts can only be attributed to economic causes.

At first all the tribe—children, women and men—took part in the repasts; they ate their old relations—to spare them the cares of age and of the savage life, so painful for these who have lost the vigor and elasticity of their members! But when a sojourn in countries abounding in game and fish, the breeding of cattle, and the culture of the earth, made the maintenance of the old possible, they were left to die their beautiful death. But the bodies of the enemies killed on the field of battle, and also the prisoners of war, were still eaten.

Slavery was only introduced when agricultural and industrial production was so far developed that one man's labor could produce sufficient for his own maintenance and something over which could be taken possession of by another individual.

Savage and barbarian tribes, when they were decimated by internal struggles, adopted their prisoners of war to fill up the gaps made in the ranks of their warriors; they adopted them, therefore, to turn them into workers. This adoption of the slave was preserved even among civilized peoples: the Greeks

and Romans received their slaves as members of the family after a religious ceremony which took place before the family altar. The slave gave his name to the family, since the word "family" is derived from the word "famil", which means slavery. The patriarchal family, in fact, is based on the slavery of women.

In its beginnings slavery is mild: the slave is a companion, almost a friend. Azara, who last century lived for more than ten years among the savage tribes of Brazil and Paraguay, was able to observe slavery in its budding form.

"The M'bayas (the most warlike tribe of Paraguay) employ," he writes, "the Guarany's to serve them and to cultivate their lands. It is true that this is a very mild kind of slavery; the Guarany's submit to it voluntarily. The masters give few orders, and never use an impudent or commanding tone. They share everything with their slaves, even the carnal pleasures. I have seen a M'bayas shivering with cold allow his Guarany to keep the covered which he had taken to cover himself with, not even letting him that he wanted it."

Slavery as painted for us in the Odyssey, although still establishing friendly master and slave, has already lost its primitive humane character; and in proportion as civilization progresses, as philosophy enlightens mankind, as justice regulates the rights of free citizens, and as morality adorns their vices with precepts, slavery becomes more and more inhuman. In the most glorious times of Athens and of Rome it was intolerable.

Nevertheless, this inhuman and intolerable slavery was accepted by the most idealistic philosophers. Plato introduced slaves into his Utopian Republic, and Aristotle thought that nature marked out certain men for servitude; the God of the Jews and Christians assigned the

race of Ham to furnish slaves. But the Greek thinker, unlike Jehovah, had a faint foresight of the abolition of slavery when machinery should have begun to move and to accomplish of itself the sacred labor, like the tripods of Vulcan.

The clergy, who have learned the art of lying from the study of theology, persistently repeat that Christianity abolished slavery, whilst it was Christianity which introduced it into America and which preserved it in the ancient world. St. Paul sent back the fugitive Christian slaves to their masters, and, like St. Peter, St. Augustine, and the whole sequence of saints of the first centuries, he instructed slaves to obey and faithfully serve their earthly masters, to deserve the favors of the celestial master, the protector of slaves and of de-sots.

Slavery, which neither Philosophy nor Christianity ever thought of combating, and still less of suppressing, disappeared from the time the means of production became sufficiently developed to make it a precarious and expensive mode of exploiting men. Compare the wages system with slavery. The slave-owner must buy the slave and sustain the losses springing from accident or from death; he is forced to feed his slave even when he falls ill or ceases to work, and to support him in his old age, since he cannot kill him off like a dog. The capitalist is freed from these cares; without unfastening his purse he can procure as many workers as he wishes, and the wage he gives them for the working-day corresponds almost exactly to the sum the slave-owner has to expend on the nourishment of his beast of burden. The

Omnibus Companies of Paris spend more on the maintenance of a horse than on the wages of a conductor, and they make their four-footed slaves work much less than their free wage-workers.

It is by economic reasons, and not by sentimental and idealistic fantasies, that it can be explained why capitalists, who exploit free men and women so ferociously, are such ardent abolitionists of slavery.

An ideal has dwelt in the human brain for thousands of years; it is not an ideal of "justice", but an ideal of peace and happiness; an ideal of a society where there should be neither mine nor thine, where all should be for all, where equality and fraternity should be the only bonds uniting mankind. In the troubled epochs of history generous thinkers, such as Plato, More, Campanella, have pictured this ideal society in enchanting Utopias, and heroes have arisen and sacrificed themselves for its establishment.

This ideal is no spontaneous production of the human brain; it is a reminiscence of that Golden Age, that Earthly Paradise, of which religions tell us; it is a far-off souvenir of that communistic epoch through which mankind passed before the introduction of private property.

If the plebeians and the poor of the Greek cities failed in their numerous revolts against the patricians and the rich, to re-introduce the community of goods; if the popular heretical sects of the Middle Ages failed in their repeated attempts to re-establish equality and fraternity on earth, it was because in the time of the Graeco-Latin decadence, as in the last centuries of the Middle Ages the economic phenomena were against a return to the community of goods; instead of aiding such a return, they destroyed the last remnants of communism and developed the elements of bourgeois private property.

The ideal of communism revives with a new flame in our intelligence; but this ideal is no longer a reminiscence; it issues forth from reality and is the reflex of the economic world. We are no

Utopians, nor dreamers like the English Lollards or the plebeians of Greece; we are men of science, not inventing societies, but disengaging them from their capitalist conditions.

If we are communists it is because we are convinced that the economic forces of capitalist production inevitably lead society towards communism.

If we, who are accused of creating classes, demand, on the contrary, their abolition, it is because we know that those necessities of production which imposed the division of men into exploiting and exploited classes, are dissolved.

Aristotle, that giant of thought, predicted that when machines accomplished work by themselves the Free Citizens would no longer have need for slaves to procure them their leisure: if we, on our part, foresee the end of the wages system—that last form of slavery—it is because we know that man possesses the iron slave, the self-propelling machine-tool.

Never in antiquity, never in any epoch, have the Free Citizens possessed such a number of slaves . . .

The work of these millions of iron-slaves, monopolized by a class incapable of directing and controlling them, engenders the misery of the producers in the midst of the most extraordinary abundance.

But when the means of production, wrenched from the idle and impotent hands of the capitalist class, have become the common property of society, peace and happiness will flourish again on earth, because society will then dominate the economic forces as already it has dominated the natural forces; then, and then only, will man be free, because he will have then become the master of his social destiny.

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THE MOVEMENT ABROAD

TRADES UNION CONVENTION IN ITALY—"JUSTIFICATION" OF NORWEGIAN SOCIALISTS—THRILLING SCENE IN MOSCOW
REVOLUTIONISTS' MEETING.

ITALY.

The Trades Union convention took place at Bologna on November 26. Among the resolutions adopted, particular attention should be called to the following, which was adopted almost unanimously:

"The Trades Union Convention considers that the Union, being organised to combat all forms of exploitation and oppression, should not take part, as a Union, either on one side or the other, in the electoral struggle, but should leave to each of its members complete liberty of action, outside of the Union."

NORWAY.

The "Ny Tid" (New Time) speaking of the general disappointment caused by the action of the liberal bourgeoisie and the Socialist deputies, deciding in favor of a monarchy, explains this astounding contradiction as follows:

"The thing which above all justifies the dissatisfaction of our Swedish comrades, and of our comrades the world over, is due to certain internal conditions within the Norwegian Social Democracy. But, still, they should give us time here. The Social Democracy as a party, is still comparatively young, too young yet to know fully its resources or its men. It must not be forgotten that the Socialist deputies come from districts where the organization was formed in haste, and where, moreover, the movement is deprived of one of its necessary bases—the trades union organization. Further, the situation is such that in these localities the old and tried element has neither effective control nor directive power. With time, the Social Democracy is sure to surmount these checks on its effectiveness."

SERBIA.

The Social Democracy of Bulgaria addresses an appeal to the working class inviting it to unite in an organized demonstration against the government, on account of the proposed new industrial

laws and regulations, and to lay plans for a general strike should the laws be carried.

RUSSIA.

The following extract from a letter written from Moscow, shows the spirit which rules the revolutionists there:

"After a meeting of revolutionists, several detachments of the 'Black Hundred' assembled outside, to await the exit of the workingmen, and begin their pursuit and butchery. This did not stop our comrades from carrying on their work, and they had the supreme consolation of seeing the masses of the proletarians follow them regardless of the knot, the rifle bayonet, and the sabre, and obey the every signal of the Social Democracy.

"We were still unprovided with arms, and we had to warn the proletariat from all collision with troops. In spite of our exhortations, they wished to engage the soldiery, trusting in their naked strength. We were obliged to restrain them, saying, 'Comrades, the hour for armed resistance has not yet sounded. Do not answer the provocations; do not cast yourselves prematurely into the danger of massacre. When the decisive moment is come, we will call on you. In the meantime, organize and arm yourselves; spread your agitation, and hold yourselves ready for the supreme hour.' These were the instructions the committee had given us. Unanimously, the speakers of both the minority and the majority recommended armed resistance in the very near future. Large sums were collected with that end in view.

"Into the hats of the comrades placed at the exits, fell soon together with gold and silver pieces, and 100 rouble bills. Women tore off their earrings, bracelets, finger rings, and gold chains, and threw them into the common treasure. Some of them threw in their purses, and their whole contents. It was a grand moment, which it is hard to measure in all its sublimity."

MARRIAGE AND WAGES

CLEVELAND CAPITALIST USES THE FORMER TO CUT DOWN THE LATTER—A SOCIALIST CONTENTION SUSTAINED.

(Special Correspondence).

Cleveland, O., Dec. 31.—The "workingmen's section" of the Cleveland "Plain Dealer" recently contained this article: "Raise Pay of Married Men in Order to Save Money."

"By G. E. Newmeyer.

"If you are in business and want to have and keep good employees and pay them lower salaries on the average than at present, offer each one that gets married an increase of \$5 a week in salary."

"Any great employer of labor can afford to pay the man \$5 a week increase if he will get married and then, in ten years, the married man's average salary will be lower than if he remained single. The wife and the \$5 a week increase, especially the wife, will anchor the average worker in his job as long as he can hold it, and after he is married he will demand an increase of salary only when forced to do it."

"There is one big employer of labor in a big western city who makes a standing offer to increase the salary of every man who draws over \$18 a week by \$5 on the day he gets married. He figures that he has saved tens of thousands of dollars and maintained a high standard among his workmen by this policy. He does it as an economic proposition, and he reveals figures that show that the married men in his establishment, averaged for twelve years of service each, are paid about \$1.50 a week less than the unmarried men who have been in the service the same length of time."

Married Men Afraid of Jobs.

"The explanation he gives is that the married man, while he may ask for an increase in salary, seldom demands it, and still less frequently makes an issue of the salary question by giving the firm his choice between granting the increase or accepting his resignation. When the man assumes a wife he grows timid about losing his position and his timidity and fear increase in direct ratio to the number of children born to him."

"Frequently," this employer told me, "I order the salary of some married men increased after he has served us faithfully for years simply because I know he never will ask for it. The advance of \$5 a week granted when they are married practically puts an end to their increases until they save enough to be independent of the work or until another position is open to them."

"It's an odd fact, too, that nearly all firms prefer married men to single men as skilled workmen."

steadier, less liable to fly off at slight provocation and much less likely to start or help foster labor troubles inside the shop. The firms seldom offer jobs to married men working elsewhere—simply because they don't see them.

"It seems a cold-blooded proposition, but we know that the \$5 a week increase in salary is an incentive to make the men get married, and we know, and they do not, that we save money by granting them that increase."

Bachelors Get Best Pay.

"We have studied the salary lists for many years back, taking the old employees and watching their advances. The ones that get married, we find averaged about \$16 a week before marriage, the same as the general run of young men in the office. When they were married their average jumped to about \$21, while the single ones remained at \$16, an envied the married men. Five years later we found the married men were averaging about \$23.50, and the single men, who started at the same time, were getting nearly \$21, and at the end of twelve years' service we discovered from the average salaries of twenty-seven married men who had received the \$5 increase, and fourteen single men who started with them in the office, the married men were averaging about \$23.25 and the single men \$23.50. The single men, by demanding increases when they felt they deserved them, had overcome the advantage of the \$5 advance and outstripped the married men who had been afraid to demand more money."

The Socialist contends that the wage earner is a slave, a chattel in every sense of the word. A man who is compelled through terror or fear of the horrors of starvation for himself and family, to sell his labor power at enough to sustain and reproduce himself is a slave. And what is the above article from the "Plain Dealer," but an admission of this fact? Here we see capitalism turning the best instincts of the workingman to the latter's enslavement and the capitalist's profit. There is but one way of overcoming this condition of wage-slavery and degradation, and that is by abolishing capitalism and inaugurating Socialism.

HE HAS NOT.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—Has Comrade De Leon joined the Socialist party, and if so, when? The reason I am prompted to ask is because of an item in an editorial paragraph in the December 30 issue of the *Volkszeitung*—

—*Continued to English-speaking readers—*

FOR THE GERMAN PARTY ORGAN.

An entertainment and dance for the benefit of "Socialistische Arbeiter Zeitung," the German party organ, will be given by Section Cleveland, S. L. P., at Finkbeiner's Hall, corner Starkweather and Pelton avenues, on Thursday, January 18, beginning at 8 p. m. sharp.

An excellent program has been composed for this occasion, including a piano duet by Professors Mauer and Sorgen, violin solo by Master Timmermann, singing, recitations and comical acts. An elegant \$45 New Home sewing machine will be given away as a prize.

Tickets are only ten cents and can be had from all members and at the office of German party organ, 103 Champlain avenue, corner Seneca street, third floor.

Needless to say that our German party organ deserves the hearty support of every comrade and sympathizer and it is therefore expected that the Socialists of Cleveland will turn out in full force and meet for a jolly good time, for a good purpose, at Finkbeiner's Hall, on Thursday, January 18, at 8 p. m.

BUSINESS DEPARTMENT

NOTES

We have given you the chance to push up the Weekly People list, by the offer of three yearly subscriptions for one dollar. You haven't begun to take advantage of the offer, at least we see no indication of it as yet. For the week ending January 6th, we received but 146 subs to the Weekly People, and 35 mail subscriptions to the Daily People, a total of 181.

While we have given you the chance to do some good work, there are, aside from this, many opportunities confronting you. Industrial Unionism is forging ahead and its principles and tactics are forcing attention in all quarters. Nowhere, save in the Weekly People, can a full and complete report of I. W. W. activity be found. The rank and file of the Socialist party, denied, by their privately owned press, all knowledge of the movement, or else fed on garbled accounts of it, should, for their enlightenment, be brought in contact with the Weekly People. That this is not being done, shows that we are not alive to the opportunities, nay the DEMANDS, of the season. It is high time for all to awake.

We asked for 2,000 Weekly People subscriptions for the month of January. It is not too late to accomplish that feat yet, but to do it means work, work begun at once. Remember the conditions of the three yearly subscriptions for one dollar offer. They must be yearly, and must reach us at one time accompanied with the cash. No other discounts or premiums allowed, when taking advantage of three yearly subs for one dollar offer.

For the January 20th issue of the Weekly People, the issue containing Debs' speech on Industrial Unionism, we have to date orders for 10,150 extra copies. If you want to circulate this issue don't wait until it is exhausted. Order now.

The roll of honor, this week, for five or more subs is: Fred Brown, Cleveland, O., 6; E. Halpin, Norfolk, Va., 6; C. A. Ruby, Rochester, N. Y., 6 for the Daily. J. A. LaBille, Kansas City, Mo., bought \$6 worth of prepaid postal cards.

To make a better showing than we do this week rests with you.

LABOR NEWS NOTES.

Pamphlets sent out: A. Louwet, Kalamazoo, Mich., \$2.40; Wm. Humphrey, Seattle, Wash., \$3; C. Clive, Salt Lake City, Utah, \$2; R. S. LaBarre, Seattle, Wash., \$1.50; A. Chambers, Brisbane, Queensland, \$1.50; H. J. Friedman, Chicago, \$2.25; Theo. Zollner, Duluth, Minn., \$1.50; J. A. Leach, Tucson, Ariz., \$3; Carl Oberhen, Atchison, Kans., \$2.25.

Leaflets: P. Regnier, Schenectady, N. Y., \$2.25; J. Begovich, San Pedro, Cal., \$1.75; Local-167, I. W. W., New York, \$1.

Books: J. A. Leach, Tucson, Ariz., 1 Ancient Society; J. Billow, Chicago, 2 Sue stories; F. Bohmback, Boston, 2 Woman Under Socialism; John Kenny, Lawrence, Mass., \$1.10; Chas. Rogers, Kansas City, Mo., \$2.50; C. T. Trott, Billings, Mont., \$2.25; Australian Socialist League, Sydney, New South Wales, \$2.24 worth of literature, buttons, etc.

The business done shows that the Party activity is greatest in the West. Conditions are just as good for activity in the East. Get active.

HE HAS NOT.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—Has Comrade De Leon joined the Socialist party, and if so, when? The reason I am prompted to ask is because of an item in an editorial paragraph in the December 30 issue of the *Volkszeitung*—

Why Is Trades-Unionism A Burning Question?

By S. Peskin.

(Translated from the *Zeit Geist*, a Jewish weekly publication of the Social Democratic Party by Dr. A. Levine.)

to a Socialist change and at the same time organizes and enlightens the workers to facilitate the job. The one and the other follow in the trail of the economic development itself.

The changes in the purely economic conditions are brought about, naturally, without our intervention. We, Socialists, need not give a helping hand to the capitalist class in organizing trusts, introducing gigantic machinery, and expanding the market. This they do conscientiously and well. They at the same time collect great numbers of workingmen into masses, discipline them through the requirements of modern machinery, give them a wider outlook and in general extend their horizon. Nothing remains for us but to revolutionize these masses, sharpen their class consciousness, and make them fit to be able, disposed and willing, to grapple with capitalism. And this, our work, is in harmony with the general economic development. Every event in the labor movement, every form of labor organization and every form of battle, must be viewed from this standpoint.

As the American working class has been fighting on the economic field these many years, we do well in continually agitating for unity at the ballot box. In this respect we find, however, that thus far the political struggle in this country does not bear, maintain, nor foster the fighting spirit that it does in continental Europe. There the working class has obtained the suffrage by first putting up a fight, and even to-day the very voting is an act of defiance. In going to vote the worker there feels that he is enjoying something which he has forced from his oppressors. Even to-day he is on the fighting line, for many are the obstacles put in his way to prevent him from using his right of suffrage. The police are all the time on the lookout to find the slightest pretext for dissolving his political clubs, to break up his political meetings, confiscate his papers, and arrest his speakers. And when he finally enters to give his vote he feels that everybody's stare is turned on him to see how he votes, and if he really votes for his party he is in immediate danger of being blacklisted by the police and boss. In those countries therefore the process of voting itself leaves a deep impress on the Socialist worker. It rouses in him feelings of solidarity, of self-sacrifice; it stamps him with "The Red Badge of Courage," all of which is absolutely necessary to make the working class able, disposed and willing to lock horns with the capitalist class.

We see the same thing happening also in France and Italy, where the attitude toward the trade unions, or rather, the role of the unions in the general struggle of the working class, has become the most burning question among Socialists. There has arisen there, viz: the "syndicate" wing, which holds that even the Socialist political battle must be carried on directly by and through the trade unions. This tendency we shall discuss in a separate article. But instead of going to Europe for examples, we can to greater advantage turn to our own America where the data about trade unionism are much richer and more instructive than anywhere else, and what do we find? Exactly the same story. The trade union question is ever the standing order of business of the Socialist movement, calling for some definite solution; again and again have we announced to the world what this solution is supposed to be, but with the passing years, as the movement grows richer in experience and the economic development brings forth new points of view, the old solution becomes obsolete, and in the ranks of the Socialists a re-grouping takes place according to the various opinions that they hold with regard to the trade union question. Take, for instance, the history of the last few years beginning with the formation of the S. D. P. Was there a single opinion that was so unanimously held by the comrades of the S. D. P. as the one that the tactics of the S. L. P. are absolutely wrong, and that all that Socialists had to do was to go into the unions with the meekness of the Christian apostles to preach Socialism there, and every time the labor fakir smites them on the cheek to humbly put forth the other? What do we see to-day. A break of ranks and a re-grouping. Old friends have become opponents; old opponents, friends. Such prominent and leading members of the S. D. P. as Debs, Simons, Unterman, Coates, Mother Jones, Trautmann and others declare that the old "Christian apostolic" tactics are wrong, and go so far as to found an opposition organization made up of revolutionary Socialists.

This being thus, how are we to bag this elusive trade union question, anyhow? Is it really of such importance to the Socialists as to make it worth while to even split up parties only to be set right and united on this question? My answer is, yes. The trade union question, the economic struggle, is of such paramount importance to us, Socialists, that it is worth everything only to set right on this.

Modern Socialism has in reality a double foundation. On the one hand we have an economic structure reared upon private ownership and free competition which must be torn down; on the other hand we have the workers who are to do the ridding. The economic development in itself tends to make the economic structure more and more adapted

CLASSICAL LITERATURE

We are frequently asked for advice as to books that should be read on certain topics, and as to what constitutes good literature. So often are we asked for such advice, that we deem it a need probably widespread among our friends, and in order to help them in the direction of good reading we have made a careful selection of standard works representative of some of the greatest authors. These books are for thinking people. They are not books for a day but for all time. We can supply the books, cloth bound, for 50 cents a volume, which includes postage. Such books make ideal holiday gifts, and if your wife, your sister, or your sweetheart, or anyone else, contemplates giving you a present, tell them you would prefer one of these books to anything else. Orders must be accompanied with cash, no accounts opened. The titles are:

Aristotle's *Ethics*.

Augustine, *St. Confessions* of.

Bacon's *Essays*.

Baile's *Shorter Stories*.

Bronte's *Jane Eyre*.

Carlyle's *Sartor Resartus*.

Darwin's *Coral Reefs*.

Defoe's *Captain Singleton*.

De Quincey's *Confessions*.

De Quincey's *Essays*.

Early *Reviews of Great Writers*.

Elizabethan England.

English *Fairy and Folk Tales*.

English *Prose* (Maudeville to Thackeray).

Epictetus, *Teaching of*.

Froissart, *Passages from*.

Goethe, *Maxims of*.

Gosse's *Northern Studies*.

Heine in *Art and Letters*.

Heine, *Prose writings of*.

Heine's *Italian Travel Sketches*.

Ibsen's *Pillars of Society*.

Irish *Fairy and Folk Tales*.

Jerroll, *Douglas*, *Papers*.

Landor's *Imaginary Conversations*.

WEEKLY PEOPLE

24 and 26 New Maude St., New York

P. O. Box 1526. Tel. 129 Franklin.

Published Every Saturday by the Socialist Labor Party.

Entered as second-class matter at the New York postoffice, July 13, 1900.

Owing to the limitations of this office, correspondents are requested to keep a copy of their articles, and not to expect them to be returned. Consequently, no stamp should be sent for return.

SOCIALIST VOTE IN THE UNITED STATES:

In 1882.....	2,062
In 1892.....	21,157
In 1896.....	36,564
In 1900.....	34,191
In 1904.....	34,172

The old Barons of the middle ages used, in general, the thumb-screw to extort property; we moderns use, in preference, hunger or domestic affliction: but the fact of extortion remains precisely the same. Whether we force the man's property from him by pinching his stomach, or pinching his fingers, makes some difference anatomically;—morally, none whatsoever.

—RUSKIN.

HUSHMONEY OR BLACKMAIL?

The press despatches from Pittsburgh, Pa., have it that the H. C. Frick interests are endeavoring to buy "The Leader" newspaper of that city. The announcement comes accompanied with the story that "The Leader" was printing articles and cartoons "hostile to the Frick interests"; that \$1,250,000 was offered for "The Leader" ten days ago by the Frick interests, which sought to turn the paper from an enemy into a supporter; that the offer was declined; that thereupon "The Leader" came out with a cartoon representing Frick with a dollar sign on his back; and that Frick then told his broker: "This won't do. Buy that paper for me."

Is "The Leader" telling the truth about Frick and his "interests"? If so, none can be better aware of it than Frick himself. In that case, when Frick says: "This won't do" he means that the truth must not be told. When he orders his broker to buy the paper the purpose is to throttle information. When he is ready to pay so round a sum for stifling facts the price is hush-money. No innocent man pays out hush-money.

On the other hand, in "The Leader" not telling the truth? If so, then the paper is seeking to levy blackmail.

Altogether the spectacle is characteristic of the virtues of capitalism, and of the virtues that capitalism breeds. It is a compound of hush-money and blackmail. The privately owned press is an industry set up for sale. "Frick" started as a fierce anti-railroad cartoonist that made the Goulds and Vanderbilts squirm. The railroad interests bought it; now it is a lickspittle of King Capital. It is not unlikely that "The Leader" will pass into the assets of the Frick interests and that it will soon reproduce Frick, not with a dollar sign on his back, but with the wings of an angel, and around his head the halo of a saint.

DECIDELY ELEMENTARY.

The printers' strike for the eight-hour day in the book and job trade furnishes the rife-dust-for-the-workingmen "Evening Post" the occasion for some philosophic thoughts on elementals. It says:

"The union is within its rights in demanding higher wages; the employers in demanding that men willing and anxious to work at the rate now paid be allowed to do so. That is elementary."

There can be nothing more elementary than that—from the capitalist view point.

First disposes the peasants from their holdings; then tax and undersell the middle class out of existence; then further increase the supply of labor in the labor-market at home by luring hither the workers from Europe or anywhere else; and, then, when the supply sufficiently exceeds the demand and men are not only willing but "anxious to work" for the merest pittance, ring out "free field and no favors", and let the employer profit by the standard of starvation that the employing class itself raised. That certainly is elementary.

And it is also elementary that, when—despite the capitalist's process of overstocking the market—, the over-supply insists upon herding together in cities, leaving a dearth of hands on the fields, the capitalist class should throw fits through its "Evening Posts", and curse the under-supply in the fields for insisting upon a wage-scale in keeping with the low supply of the locality. That is so elementary that it hardly needs more than to be mentioned.

There is something else equally elementary, and that is that people will not for ever accept as current coin the hypocritical pretenses of fair play in which the capitalist class wraps up its

iniquities; that they will see through the sham, perceive how things stand, and then give short shrift to a social system in which large numbers of men, women and even children are systematically driven to such desperate straits that they are "willing and anxious", especially anxious, to look upon the merest starvation wage as the drowning man looks at a straw. This is probably the most elementary of the three propositions.

CRAFTISM ON EXHIBITION

The compositors are now engaged in a gigantic fight—the fight for the eight-hour day. Arrayed against them stands the association of the Typothetae. Even eight hours is too long a day's work at the machine; no amount of wages can compensate man, least of all woman for the health-undermining drudgery of the type-setting machine. That the Typothetae pay no giddy wages we all know. What with low wages and fibre-and-nerve-consuming work, the mortality among the compositors is, as their journal recently put it, appalling. Against such conditions the International Typographical Union has taken up arms. What should one expect at such a time from sister Unions in the A. F. of L., especially of a Union of closely kindred trade? Why, of course, determined support. Even though it is true that the I. T. U. has ever left its kindred trades in the lurch, even though, therefore, enthusiasm must not be expected from kindred trades that have suffered from I. T. U. egotism on other occasions, this certainly is not the time for "tit for tat" but no!

A circular is out from the Franklin Association No. 23, signed by its President and Recording Secretary, cautioning all members NOT (the underlining is in the circular) to take part in any strike or lockout that may occur on account of the present eight-hour agitation! And as if to add irony to the thrust, the circular bears the label of the allied printing trades!

There stands craft Unionism on exhibition. Each battalion of the Labor Army left to fight it out alone, while the others rest upon their arms, and look on—"neutral" in the fight.

That individual or body of individuals in the Labor Movement who stands neutral in any conflict, in which some other individual or body of individuals in the Labor Movement is involved, is not a neutral. He and it are ACTIVE SUPPORTERS OF THE CAPITALIST CLASS.

HOCH'S IDEAL.

Gov. Hoch of Kansas is in a stew about what he calls the tidal wave of Socialism sweeping over the country, and the individual being "swallowed up in the government." The Governor must be living with closed eyes. The danger of the individual being "swallowed up in the government" is not a danger that is pending, it is a calamity that our people are now actually laboring under.

What is the status of the men and women in the sweat-shops? What is the status of the famishing miners in the mining regions? What is the status of the wornout weavers in the mills? What is the status of the railroad men, whose mutilated limbs strew the highways of the nation? What is the status of the hundreds of thousands of children in factories, and on streets peddling papers? What is the status of the women in the chain factories of Illinois? What is the status of the prematurely grey shoemakers, who are lashed to the Goodyear machine? What is the status of the compositors, the mortality among whom is appalling? What is the status of the chain-gang-looking gangs of men in the sugar and oil refineries? What is the status of the steel workers in the Carnegie plant? But why go through the long list of the men who do the nation's work? What in short, is the status of the Working Class?—They are swallowed up head and heels in the government, the real government, the maker and unmaker of the political government, the CAPITALIST PLANTS AND ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAND.

But being himself a political product of the capitalist economic government, Gov. Hoch, perhaps, follows the custom of the Capitalist Class; when he thinks of the people or the nation, the Working Class does not enter into consideration, only the Capitalist Class is considered. In that class, excepting the trifling percentage that constitutes the Morgan or plutocratic top-notch, a sample of the government-unswallowed-up individuality? What is the status of the large body of minority of stocks stockholders? What is the status of the politicians whom the crack of Roosevelt's patronage whip corralled so as to elect a boy as Speaker of the Assembly in Albany? What is the status, in short, of the bulk of the Capitalist Class?—They are swallowed up, head and heels, in the government, the real government, the maker and unmaker of political government, the capitalist plants and administration of the land, run by the plutocracy. They

have no opinion of their own. They

are utter noise, if they have any. They are swallowed up in their own governmental system.

It is with man as with birds. The coloring of birds is either protective or amorous. Where there is no danger to life, the bird's free and happy spirit manifests itself in beautiful plumage. Where there is danger of life, the bird merges its individuality in the color of its surroundings: its plumage adopts the prevalent surrounding color. So with man. Assured existence warms individuality into being; precariousness of existence, swallows up individuality, freedom of thought and action vanishes. Such is the aspect presented by our masses to-day. They are swallowed up in the government—and that is a curse peculiar to capitalism that Socialism only can lift.

LETTING OUT CATS.

When the capitalist finds himself crowded by the Socialist, and realizes that he can not hold the position that he is a wealth producer, he forthwith seeks shelter in a cloud of abstractions. One is that his share in the wealth produced is the reward of the risks he takes, another is that it is the reward of his abstinence, a third is that it is the reward of his enterprise; he usually clinches the last point with the announcement that Socialism would undermine initiative and destroy enterprise: everything would depend upon the Government; the individual would have to lean so much upon the Government that he would forget how to stand upon his own feet: whereas, under capitalism, the Government only regulates the conduct of individual towards individual, leaving both to exercise their self-reliance. Hence capitalism develops enterprise, while Socialism would develop paternalism. The Congressional debates on the railroads in the Philippine Islands are letting out cats galore on the subject.

When our American capitalists took possession of the archipelago they found there only 120 miles of railroad, extending from Manila to Dagupan. Capitalist "initiative and enterprise" started to improve upon that. A complete system of railways was projected, aggregating about a thousand miles; and then?—and then? And then self-reliant Capital exhibited its self-reliance—by "standing upon its own feet" and thus earning the reward of its enterprise? No! By getting its Government to guarantee 4 per cent return for thirty years! Needless to say that, if American Labor had demanded from Congress a one-half of one per cent return on the fiber it would have to expend in building the projected roads. American Labor would have been hooted out of that Temple of Anti-Paternalism for aiming a blow at individual self-reliance and enterprise. Quite otherwise when the application came from the capitalist class for a guarantee of 4 per cent return upon its stolen goods.

"Risks," "Abstinence," "Enterprise"—these are but variations to the same tune, the tune of plunder. The capitalist class takes no "risks"; if it at all "abstains" the abstinence is of honor and sobriety; and as to its "individuality" and "self-reliant enterprise" that is but terms to conceal the fact that its Government is there to be leaned upon.

In the discussion of the labor problem much time and attention is given to showing that the position of the working class is either improving or declining. Many persons imagine that if it can be shown that labor is better paid than formerly, the labor problem will be proven without inherent justification and vanish accordingly. Unfortunately for them, the imaginings of persons never make a problem, though they may complicate it. And the labor problem is no exception to the rule. The labor problem exists because of the conflicting interests of capital and labor. Labor creates all wealth, but receives only sufficient to subsist, for doing so. Labor insists on having all it creates. It contends that the problem is not one of relative proportions, but of justice to itself. This Capital denies. Capital insists that it has a right to appropriate all of Labor's products above the cost of its subsistence. Thus arises the conflict. This is the labor problem, all else proceeds therefrom and is supplementary or incidental thereto. And the problem will not be settled until the claims of Labor are sustained, as they give every indication of being in the not very distant future.

McCall gets out, and the New York Life Insurance company finds itself "in" \$235,000 as a consequence. If the whole capitalist class was to get out, how much would the working class be "in"? Think it over.

"We see evidence of prosperity on every hand."—W. H. Harriman, Dec. 30, 1905.

"I predict a panic that will make all previous panics look like child's play."—Jacob Schiff, Jan. 4, 1906.

Comparisons are odious.

KING CAPITAL

His Shabby Errands and the Shabby Fellows Who Do Them.

The King often has shabby errands, and must have shabby fellows to do them.—Walter Scott.

King Capital also has his shabby errands. And his shabby system of production and distribution, to repos safety in the royal household of plutocracy, must be guarded and protected. His lieges, the rum shop, the distiller-brewer, the pawnbroker, the tenement house landlord, the instalment furniture salesmen, with his two hundred per cent profit, the Industrial Insurance company, whose agents invade widow's houses and gather up the tribute of a nickel or a dime weekly, yielded for fear and in terror lest sudden death visit the household and the humiliation of a pauper burial be the consequence—all such are shabby fellows doing shabby errands and their name is legion.

As Louis XVI had his mercenaries, the Swiss guards; as the Russian Czar maintains his Cossacks and rewards them with free lease of land gratuities and service pension, so the despots, Capitalism, must be protected from the resentments of the press.

In the great metropolis of America an army of mercenaries and henchmen are organized nine thousand strong, equipped with uniforms, armed with bludgeons and firearms, standing guard over the unholy accumulations of the capitalist appropriator, the plutocratic usurper. The apology they offer for this miserable servitude is that it's a soft job and pays well, but they sometimes indicate that the criminal and disorderly classes must be held in check or society would be destroyed.

The Socialist missionary has looked long and earnestly to find the criminal or disorderly among the proletariat and they are non est inventus. True, we know of the frenzied, the debased, the disheartened; also we know the primary cause, the capitalist system of production and distribution. And we promise to abolish that economic deformity, usually named poverty. We know that the dispossessed sometimes turn like the trodden worm and with the same result: their own annihilation; for the laws that create temptations instead of removing them speedily avenges this attempted retaliation, which it could not prevent.

We have no Czar in America but a cruel and remorseless system, a privileged class, that reaps where it has not sown. Furnishes the capital, perhaps. So does the footpad provide the revolver. So did the jolly rover, Capt. Robt. Kyd, furnish the armed crew and cannoneades, and in each case the motives were identical, the spoliation of the helpless. Consider the system of the employment of the American Cossacks. In the lower grade, a wage of from one thousand to fourteen hundred dollars yearly; in the higher grades a proportionate increase, as well as perquisites of graft, etc.; and, after twenty years' service a pension for the remainder of life equal to half this amount. Labor statistics proved long ago that the average weekly wage of the honest workingman had not for many years exceeded the nine dollar weekly figure and his pension after twenty years' service the privilege of the alm's house, the morgue and Potter's Field. Is it not time that we give heed and consider this significant physical feature of the capitalist conspiracy; or are we to remain the idiotic, the unconscious and shabby fellows doing shabby tricks against our order and our commonwealth?

G. W. Tracy.
Utica, N. Y.

The police officials of Boise, Idaho, are rendering themselves ridiculous. Unable or unwilling to bring the assassins of Ex-Governor Stuenenberg to justice, they blame his death on the Western Federation of Miners. The prospects are that some business rival or political opponent killed the former Governor. As the devotees of Capitalism, laying claim of being immaculately pure, they are compelled, for appearance's sake, to place the blame of Stuenenberg's death on a labor organization, rather than where it most likely belongs. The Coeur d'Alene bull pen is too ancient an issue and has been too much overshadowed by later and more stirring events to have been the motive for the dynamiting of Stuenenberg.

Yerkes, the dead millionaire, was another "moral" capitalist, upholder of marriage and the family, opponent of free love, etc., etc. Miss Grisby is an eloquent living testimonial of the fact. And, it is intimated, "there are others."

The New York Post Office is bailed as a "big money maker". For whom? For the post office contractors and the railroad companies. Certainly not for the employees, who complain of low wages, long hours, overwork and the spy-system.

PRIVATELY OWNED PRESS.

The re-alignment that is taking place in the Socialist Movement of the land is raising a number of issues that must be settled right, or they will continue to plague the Movement. Of course, these issues all center around the burning Question of Unionism; they nevertheless have their own independent existence. Among these collateral issues, and partaking of the burning feature of the maine Question, is the Question of the ownership of the press. So burning is this topic also that many are the letters running into this office, raising this, that and the other point on the matter. The subject merits fuller and more connected treatment than off-hand answers in the Letter-Box will afford.

In September of last year, the President and the Secretary-Treasurer of the I. W. W., Sherman and Trautmann were in this city on an organization tour, and held large meetings.—"The Worker" wholly suppressed information thereon, while the "Volkszeitung" sought to injure the second meeting, a meeting of silkworkers, by giving a notice of it in advance with a FALSE ADDRESS.

In December of last year, Debs, the Socialist party's recent Presidential candidate, delivered five addresses in this city and vicinity to crowded houses on the I. W. W.—"The Worker" suppressed all mention of them.

Not satisfied with seeking to "mold public opinion" by the withholding of information and the misleading of its readers through false addresses, the Corporation went further:

An anonymous circular appeared from A. F. of L. quarters defaming the I. W. W. Capmakers Union.—Without inquiring into the correctness of the charges, the "Volkszeitung" hastened to father them and make them the foundation of an assault upon the I. W. W.

Not yet satisfied with seeking to "mold public opinion" by the publication as true of unverified and anonymous charges, the Corporation went still further:

Both "The Worker" and "Volkszeitung" refused publication to the signed denial, by the national organizer of the I. W. W., of the anonymous charges made by the A. F. of L. capmakers; and "The Worker" also refused publication to the SWORN ANSWER which the I. W. W. capmakers published.

Not even yet satisfied with seeking to "mold public opinion" by a hostility and unfairness that bordered on gougerism, the Corporation went still further, turning up in the full gouger's role for the A. F. of L. even to the point of committing the crime of forgery:

In its summary of the anonymous charges against the I. W. W. capmakers, "The Worker" inserted a clause that was not in the original, and subsequently, letters from its party members criticizing its conduct, are published in mutilated form and materially altered. A publishing concern is not a tube through which everything sent in must appear in its paper. Letters of criticism may be improper. The concern's duty then is to refuse them publication. To publish them, however, over the writer's signature in garbled form is an act of knavery; it is forgery; it is insidious deception. Such knavish acts are not uncommon in the Socialist or Social Democratic party press. Another striking illustration was recently furnished by the Milwaukee "Social Democratic Herald" when a letter, sent by Debs criticizing Berger's conduct in the matter of fusion with capitalist candidates in Milwaukee, was published by that paper in an "expurgated" version.

Further instances are superfluous. The so-called "press of the Social Democratic or Socialist party" is run so as to keep the party in ignorance and to deceive it, and the party is impotent for redress. There is no party authority over that press, to which to appeal. There can be none. The concerns are privately owned. The party may expel these editors and each of the incorporators; but they can, as the Volkszeitung Corporation is now obviously doing, stick out their tongues, and, in the language of Tweed, ask: "What are you going to do about it?" The party circulated the publications of the concern, it thereby made the concern a power, but that power is out of the party's reach. Like canons that the labor of a city raises upon the dominating heights that surround it, and then leaves in the hands of its overlords, who turn them upon the city and keep it in subjection, the press, as a whole, of the Socialist or Social Democratic party is handled irresponsibly to the party, responsible only to the private interests of its owners.

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B. J.—Which fact do you deny?

CORRESPONDENCE

CORRESPONDENTS WHO PREFER TO APPEAR IN PRINT UNDER AN ASSUMED NAME WILL ATTACH SUCH NAME TO THEIR COMMUNICATIONS, BESIDES THEIR OWN SIGNATURE AND ADDRESS. NONE OTHER WILL BE RECOGNIZED.

TIS THE SAME DUCK.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—Issue in the December 30th issue of the "Worker", a fish-wife's tirade against the Socialist Labor Party and Comrade De Leon, with side flings at Eugene V. Debs; the outburst is signed W. Fischer, Quebec. Of course it is really aimed at the I. W. W., but that aside, here is something I should like to know: I am an old-timer in the S. L. P. and this name Fischer sounds familiar. There was at one time a man of that name in the Socialist Labor Party; he left it because of the Party's "intolerance," and he immediately afterward showed the "toleration" he was after by taking a Federal political job, secured with the assistance of John Mitchell. Is this W. Fischer, Quebec, the same duck? Or is this one another duck?

George P. Herrschart.

Jersey City, N. J., Jan. 4.

THE WAY TO START THE NEW YEAR.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—The S. L. P. of Westchester County started the year 1905 by organizing a promising branch of 14 members in West New Rochelle.

A. J. F.

New York, Jan. 2.

A BIG SIX "VICTORY."

To the Daily and Weekly People:—A thing happened at the adjourned meeting of Big Six, which took place on Sunday afternoon, the 31st of December, that looks either as a sell-out to the bosses by our great and glorious Eight-Hour Committee, or a scheme on their part to have our union put in such a fix that our international chums of Belmont can have the charter of Big Six revoked and re-organize the men to suit themselves. This is what happened at that adjourned meeting.

It there came out that the settlement which our Eight-Hour Committee made with a hundred and fifty-two independent shops, and which our Executive Committee approved and ratified, and which all our officers have applauded as a "victory for the eight-hour day" is in fact a decided victory for these one hundred and fifty-two bosses. After this they can work us to death and never pay overtime.

This is the way the agreement runs and the way it works. It is stipulated that the men in those shops will work only forty-eight hours a week. There are six work-days, so there you have your eight hours. But, mind you, the BOSS HAS THE POWER TO DISTRIBUTE HIS HOURS TO SUIT HIMSELF. He can work us one day, if there is a rush of business, ten and twelve hours. Formerly, under the nine-hour schedule, if he did work us ten or twelve hours then he had to pay us overtime for one or three hours, as the case might be. Now he need not pay us a cent for overtime. Provided that altogether a man does not work more than forty-eight hours a week the boss can now pocket the overtime and we are out of it.

Who will deny that these bosses are a happy lot! Who will wonder at the "World's" trade of to-day crowing over our "victory." But why should we crow? As to us, we are simply sold out.

If the purpose is not to sell us out then the purpose of our Eight-Hour Committee must be to lay the foundation for the revocation of the charter of our union, as happened in St. Louis.

Big Six Member.

New York, January 2.

BUSY TIME IN PATERSON.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—Last night was a busy time in this town. The Socialist Labor Party educational class meetings are becoming more interesting as we progress in "Value, Price and Profit." The agitation committee of I. W. W. locals met to perfect arrangements for organizing the ladies, waist makers; the joint committee of January 22 demonstration also met. So far as the writer has been able to observe, the progressive organizations are a unit in this affair, and the outlook is most encouraging for industrial unionism. In the near future, if the I. W. W. ranks are not many times doubled in this city, then my reckoning is away off.

Fraternal,

R. Berdan.

Paterson, N. J., December 30.

THE I. W. W. IN CANADA.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—The Tribune, the organ of the pure and simple unions in this city, has an article against the I. W. W., by J. H. Flett. This man Flett is one of the most prominent of the A. F. of L. labor

leaders in Canada and his "say" is authoritative. One is led to ask oneself the question: If it takes nine or ten organizers of the A. F. of L. to counteract the efforts of one local of the I. W. W. in the city of Montreal, how many will it take to smash the I. W. W. at large? The answer springs immediately, thousands of organizers, which is an impossibility, therefore the I. W. W.'s day of triumph is assured.

The local of the I. W. W. (Mixed) is healthy, and I shall, as correspondent to The People and the "Industrial Worker," inform you from time to time of the doings in this corner of the universe.

Fraternally,
James W. Reid.
Toronto, January 1.

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Fraternally,
James W. Reid.
Toronto, January 1.

A CHICAGO LECTURE ON UNIONISM.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—The last of the series of three mass meetings arranged by Cigarmakers' Local Union 158, I. W. W., was held Friday night, December 22, at Pritiken's Hall, corner Maxwell and streets.

Considering the meeting from the standpoint of numbers, it was not much of a success, but as an educational meeting it was.

The meeting was opened by F. Barndt. The speaker was A. M. Simons.

The speaker first gave a review of the Labor Movement before the Civil War down to the formation of the K. of L. and then of the A. F. of L. The speaker pointed out on this head the significant thing that when the American Federation of Labor sent out the call for their first convention to be held at Pittsburgh, they claimed that a quarter of a million workers were asking to be organized outside of the K. of L.; that only seventy-four delegates, representing about fifty-five thousand members, responded to the call; and that all or almost all the delegates come to the convention on street cars, which shows that that convention was nothing else but a Pittsburgh movement. After levying an assessment besides the per capita tax, the A. F. of L. received, during their first year's existence, about four hundred dollars.

In answer to the charge that the Industrial Workers of the World came into existence through the minds of some intellectuals, the speaker showed that conditions are such that a new form of organization is a necessity, and was inevitable. It had to come, it came. Were not the conference held in Chicago last January it would have been held somewhere else. If the manifesto were not sent out by those who signed, others would have sent out some other kind of manifesto. If the convention were not held in Chicago, it would have been held in some other place.

Continuing, the speaker said:

"The Industrial Workers did not come into existence through any plot. It came into existence because of the facts that surround us on every step we take."

"The industrial development of capitalism is such that the working class must have a new weapon to fight with, the old weapon is out of date."

"To meet this new form of organized capital, a new form of unionism was launched."

A question was asked of Simons why so many Socialist party papers were opposed to the I. W. W. This important question was handled by the speaker in every way but the right one. He said that he only knew two Socialist papers, the New York "Worker" and the "Social Democratic Herald," that were opposed to the I. W. W., and they could be honest in their opinion.

When asked if a Socialist could be true to his convictions when, from the political rostrum he tells the workers to carry on their fight on class lines, and at the same time from the same rostrum advises the workers to join an economic organization that is opposed to the idea of the class struggle and fights the Socialist every way possible, this question, like the previous one, was handled badly. Simons said that these editors could be honest, that the papers were theirs and they will change as the sentiment grows in favor of the I. W. W.

The opinion of many that were to this meeting was that a Socialist party man finds it rather hard to answer questions to an I. W. W. meeting.

In a conversation before the meeting opened, the writer asked A. M. Simons what he thought of the cigarmakers' affair. As far as he was concerned he did not think it worth while to bother about, as they don't give any proof, they merely make a lot of statements. He told the writer that since he got their per-

sonal circular he asked for proof, but had not heard from them since.

We are now making further arrangements for mass meetings to be held at the same hall next month.

At the I. W. W. headquarters the "Industrial Worker" is growing surprisingly fast in subs. The officers say that they never expected such a large number of subscriptions to come in before the paper is started.

Requests for charters are coming in almost daily, some days as high as seven unions requesting charters.

The A. F. of L., with its fight against the W. F. of M., and the cigarmakers' and machinists' unions, with their fight against the I. W. W. do not stop our growth.

A. Proly.
Chicago, Ill., December 26.

TID-BITS FROM MILLS.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—Business men are not given to taking long chances when they have advertisements inserted in periodicals, their aim is to make the proposition as plain to the general public as possible. This is what Professor Walter Thomas Mills does in the adv. which he inserts in the papers.

All must agree that the following is plain and to the point, and bait for suckers and nothing more, just as are the majority of capitalist advs: "If you want to carry your State, your country or city for Socialism, write to Walter Thomas Mills."

Now, Mills knows that through his agency this can no more be accomplished than it can through mine; but he also knows there are a great many poor confounding fools who will believe it, just as there are those who believe the advs. of the capitalist when he says he will sell an article "below the cost of production."

When Mills was here campaigning for the S. P. he informed Mr. Ernst, president of the Economic Club of the Vine Street Congregational Church, his words follow, as Mr. Ernst repeated them to me: "You do wrong to oppose Judge Dempsey (a capitalist party candidate) in this campaign, the great success of the Socialists of Europe, particularly in Germany, is due to a policy far different, and would be the same as your endorsement of Dempsey."

B. S. Frayne.
Cincinnati, O., Dec. 29.

CHICAGO LABOR DEFEATS.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—The end of the now famous Gilhooley trial is now here. If any one is in doubt as regards to there being two classes in society, he or she could be convinced by just looking at the time it took to find enough men to serve on the jury in this case, and noting how it was conducted. Sixty-six days were taken to pick out a jury that was class conscious, as shown by the time (six hours) it took them to decide and give a verdict against the union men. There were summoned 4,150 venire men, 1,931 of whom were examined.

The Carriage and Wagon Workers' Union, like the Machinists' Union, was carrying on a good fight in their strike, in this city about a year ago. The capitalists tried their old game of corrupting the labor leaders; that did not do. The Employers' Association took the strike into the courts; and here is where they showed their generalship. Every man summoned, if he showed any sympathy with the working class, was objected to and sent away. No workman was summoned, all were of the other class.

The Employers' Association gave out as their slogan: "That only a legal fight will end strikes when all other means fail," and it did end this strike. The Employers' Association uses different tactics in different strikes.

In the Carriage and Wagon Makers' strike they used the courts most effectively.

In the Teamsters' strike they used the negro and policemen, besides using the courts now and then, most effectively.

In the machinists' strike they used the A. F. of L. form of organization to defeat the strikers.

In all cases they won.

The carriage workers showed good fighting material in this strike, "but were betrayed by the A. F. of L. just like all other unions that were promised the whole support of the "great American Federation of Labor," but as usual, did not get it when they needed it, in so bitter a fight.

The A. F. of L. was and is doing with the Carriage and Wagon Workers as it has been and is doing with the Brewery Workers' Union: taking away some craft and weakening instead of strengthening the organization.

The Chicago Federation of Labor, at its next meeting, should adopt some more resolutions, asking the capitalists to have some union men on their juries and should not forget to express their sympathies with the seven union men who are convicted to the "pen."

Some of the officials from the Carriage and Wagon Makers' Union say that if they ever revive this fight they will see that they get out of the A. F. of L. and join a better organization.

The printers are getting it in this city from the courts in quick succession.

The two years' time given to the bosses by the printers is showing how well the bosses are prepared to fight their employees and how weak the printers are.

It is indeed a sad spectacle to see the printers go out on strike and the bookbinders, the pressmen and other employees, all union men and women, remain at work. And with such a form of organization, expect to win.

Yet there are some who say that the I. W. W. is premature.

Three cheers for the Pittsburg I. W. W. stogie makers!

State Island weavers: you are next to win.

J. B.
Chicago, Ill., Dec. 30.

THE CONDESCENDING "WELFARE" EXPERT.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—Mr. E. C. Nazaro, welfare manager of the Plymouth Cordage Company, has been engaged by the National Civic Federation, as its welfare expert. In a recent speech made by him and published in "Wade's Fibre and Fabric," he goes on to tell how and what he has done to raise the standard of American citizenship; especially of what he has done as welfare manager of the cordage company, for the people that work there about the houses they have, and how he says he believes that they are aspiring to be more than the machines they work on.

Now, Mills knows that through his agency this can no more be accomplished than it can through mine; but he also knows there are a great many poor confounding fools who will believe it, just as there are those who believe the advs. of the capitalist when he says he will sell an article "below the cost of production."

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R. W. S.
Lowell, Mass., January 3.

HARRIMAN'S "WE SEE PROSPERITY ON EVERY HAND", SUSTAINED ONCE MORE.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—The following from the San Francisco "Chronicle" of Dec. 20, gives a partial glimpse of working class conditions in the West at the close of 1905, and will serve to emphasize that clause in the Preamble to the I. W. W. constitution, which avows that "there can be no peace so long as hunger and want are found among millions of working people, and the few who make up the employing class have all the good things of life."

B. H. Williams.
Sacramento, Cal., Dec. 28.

SALVATION ARMY FEEDS THE POOR.

Many Thousands of Destitute People Are Made Happy by Charity on Christmas Day.

More than 3,000 of the deserving poor were fed by the Salvation Army on Christmas day, over 1,000 meals being delivered to needy families Saturday night, and at least 2,000 persons served with Christmas dinner in "Old Fellow's" building, Stevenson and Seventh streets, yesterday at noon. At that hour the line of waiting humanity reached for nearly a block beyond the entrance, and the crowd did not diminish two hours after the opening.

The scene within was one of genuine Christmas cheer. Some 200 helpers, connected with the army, waited on the five long tables that were spread and respread for the hungry hosts. Poor little children with pinched faces that told of privation at home, old women bowed with the weight of years and poverty, men whom sickness or misfortune had rendered unable to provide for themselves, mingled together.

At each plate was a Christmas card on which was printed under the motto, "On earth peace, good will to men," the following greeting from Colonel George French, who has the Salvation Army work in charge:

"On behalf of the Salvation Army, we wish you the compliments of the season. May this Christmas be a happy one to you. Keep looking up. God blesses. May he bless you."

Seven hundred pounds of turkey disappeared before the magic of hunger, together with 600 pounds of beef and a great array of celery, vegetables, pie and other regulation constituents of a holiday dinner. The contributions amounted to nearly \$2,000, and most of this was spent in making yesterday a day of plenty to the city's poor. In this estimate is included the expense of providing

taffing a chicken, vegetables, cereals and other provisions enough for a family of five. These were given only to families who were known to the district workers to be poor and deserving. Equal care was taken in distributing tickets to the dinner, though after the ticket-holders had finished a free invitation was given to all to partake of the provisions that were left.

Few people realize the good that is being done by Colonel French and his co-laborers. One needs to witness the hundreds of persons made happy by the rarity of a good dinner to have an adequate idea of the happiness which the wise expenditure of a comparatively small sum of money upon Christmas day occasions. The professional loafer, the charity grabber and all other varieties of the undeserving poor were conspicuous by their absence from yesterday's festivities of the Salvation Army.

PETER MARTELL.

Section Red Lake County, Red Lake Falls, Minn., in special meeting assembled, adopted the following resolutions:

Whereas, Peter Martell, a trustworthy and honorable member of our section, together with his whole family, wife and three children, was burned up and destroyed in a fire which occurred on the night of the 15th of December, 1905—a fire whose origin is unknown and remains a sealed mystery, said fire destroying house as well as family; and

Whereas, Peter Martell was in the full vigor of manhood, and of much good to our cause, at the time of his awful death; and had not Peter Martell and his family been living under disadvantages, the result of a vicious and inefficient social system, which made it necessary for him and his family to be cooped up, in a death trap, and was the cause of their being cut off from a chance to get out of the burning house, he would have lived many years to continue his good work; therefore, be it

Resolved, That we carry on an unceasing agitation against the capitalist class, which, by robbing labor of the most of what it creates, makes such conditions possible; and, be it further

Resolved, That we extend our sympathy to the friends and relatives of Peter Martell; and that a copy of these resolutions be sent to our Party Press and spread on the minutes of our section.

John Berry, Chairman.
J. K. Johnson,
Committee.

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The regular semi-annual meeting of the National Executive Committee S. L. P., having been called to order by the National Secretary, Henry Kuhn, at 9:30 a. m., on Sunday, January 7th, 1906, and a quorum under the Constitution being present, David J. Moran, of Rhode Island, was elected to the chair and P. C. Christiansen, of Ohio, was chosen Recording Secretary.

There were present with proper credentials: Thomas F. Brennan, for Massachusetts; Ulrich Frueh, for New Jersey; Chas. J. Mercer, for Connecticut; John J. Kinnally, for New York; David J. Moran, for Rhode Island, and P. C. Christiansen, for Ohio.

Not present, but reported by their respective State Executive Committees, and proper credentials filed: Duncan B. McEachern, for Illinois; Charles Becker, for Maryland; Olive M. Johnson, for California; J. C. Anderson, for Washington; A. S. Dowler, for Texas; Theodore Horine, for Indiana, and Herman Richter, for Michigan.

The Virginia State Executive Committee reported that they have two candidates in the field, and that the election will take place on Jan. 1st, after which date report will be made.

The following States sent no report, and their Executive Committees are here-with ordered to make report and to file credentials and pledges: Colorado, Kentucky, Minnesota, Missouri, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin.

The order of business adopted was: Correspondence, Report of Committees, Unfinished Business, New Business.

The minutes of the meeting held last July were adopted as read.

Correspondence: Numerous letters were read from members of the N. E. C. bearing upon the objections raised by Comrade P. F. Janke, of Indianapolis, against patent medicine advertisements published in the Party Press; also two circulars, one a copy of the first letter sent by Comrade Janke on the subject as well as an answer thereto by the N. E. C. Sub-Committee; also a second letter by Comrade Janke, expressing regret at the intemperate language used by him in the first.

The letters from the members of the N. E. C., fifteen in number, expressed a variety of opinions, and were classified into two categories. Eight were against the general position taken by Comrade Janke, while the remaining seven favor the position taken by Comrade Janke in whole or in part, one of the latter, that of the Virginia member, endorsing the Janke letter in substance. After due consideration of the entire matter it was decided that the management of the Party Press be instructed, before accepting future medical advertisements, to first consult a medical expert in the Party.

Several letters were read from Comrade Granville F. Lombard of Boston, Mass., relating to the non-publication in The People of an article by himself, entitled, "The Hen, the Egg, the Chicken or the Most Vital Principle of Socialist Organization Discussed"; also a set of resolutions by Section Boston, Mass., favoring the publication of said article; also the article itself and a statement by the Editor of The People written at the time to the local Press Committee of the N. E. C. Sub-Committee and explaining why, in the editorial judgment, the article in question should not be published. After due consideration of the entire matter it was decided that the Editor be sustained in declining the publication of the said article, and that the National Secretary be instructed to convey to Section Boston, in answer to their resolutions, a brief statement, adopted by the N. E. C.

The order of business was then suspended to give the floor to a committee of the Scandinavian Socialist Labor Federation, who presented to the N. E. C. a proposition to turn over to the Party the property of the Swedish organ "Arbetaren" for the purpose of vesting said property in the National organization of the S. L. P. and thus secure, for all future time, the tactical position of the paper. The N. E. C. favored the proposition, and, after discussing the matter in all its bearings, especially its legal aspects, it was decided to lay the matter over until the next meeting of the N. E. C. in July of the current year, for final action the N. E. C. Sub-Committee in the meantime to make an investigation and ascertain the several points involved.

P. C. Christiansen, Rec. Secy.

N. E. C. SUB-COMMITTEE.

The last meeting of the outgoing sub-committee was held Friday evening, January 5, 1906, at 2 to 6 New Reade street, New York.

Present: Anderson, Crawford, Eck, Hossack, Jacobson, Lechner, Olson, Teichlauf and Walsh. Absent with excuse: Moren, Bahnson, Gillhaus, Donohue. Absent without excuse: Katz, Burke.

Jacobsen, Chairman.

Financial report for week ending De-

ember 16: Receipts, \$38.60; expenses, \$58.00; for week ending December 23: Receipts, \$81.48, expenses, \$24.90; for week ending December 30: Receipts, \$227.66, expenses, \$239.94.

Correspondence: Duncan, Organizer Section Spokane, have opened headquarters, 27 members, outlook good. Haller, Los Angeles, on Pacific Coast circuit plans; R. W. Stevens, Baltimore, local of Socialist party asks S. L. P. co-operation in holding January 22 meeting; O. M. Johnson, N. E. C. member, California, on the state movement there. Envin, Philadelphia, on local matters; Schnabel, Milwaukee, by corrupt tactics of S. P. intellectuals. Organizer Maiorana, Houston, Tex., \$5 for agitation fund, anxious to have organizer sent there. From Bohn, Missoula, Mont., says the I. W. W. is steadily plowing its way through, and is gaining the upper hand, despite freaks and fakirs. From Meiko Meyer, Detroit, on various matters, and saying he is in bad health.

National Committeemen Schade, of Virginia, Schnitz, Kentucky, and Johnson, California, on Janke advertising protest.

Sections Minneapolis, Minn., New Britain, Conn., and E. St. Louis, Ill., report election of officers. From J. Pickering, Roslyn, Wash., surrendering Section charter, present conditions being unfavorable for maintenance of the Section, and expressing hope of re-organization.

From General Organizer Veal, New- port News and other points in Virginia. At Roanoke railroad machinists warned to keep away from meetings. Held meeting at shop gates. At street meeting the street blocked and Veal taken by police but released. I. W. W. agitation making the fakirs feel shaky, seeing that S. L. P. men are active in the movement, the fakirs are scheming against them in the shop. Sold thirty-one pamphlets in the market square. At one place a committee of fifteen men, members of the A. F. of L. invited Veal to address their organization on Industrial Unionism. When he reached the place he could find but one of the committee and no meeting. Word had been given not to hold the meeting and Veal found that an official of the machinists was camping on his trail, but nevertheless the outlook for I. W. W. is good in Virginia.

General Organizer Gillhaus reports from Scranton, Pa. At Elmira, N. Y., a wood-working concern that located there to get away from labor troubles, now find that their product is "unfair" in New York and other cities, and are forcing their men into the unions.

At Altoona, Pa., Pennsylvania Railroad, shop town, the workers dare not show their faces at meetings because the loss of jobs means leave the town, and some of them "own" a patch on a "home."

From Markley, Braddock, Pa., advising the arrival of Veal and Gillhaus in the Pittsburg district. Markley says there is plenty of work there for both men to do. S. L. P. men who are active in I. W. W. agitation are being daily called in "on the carpet" and warned to quit their agitation for I. W. W. This shows the need for better support of the General Fund.

John Hossack, Recording Secretary.

Party Press Committee reported that business management is getting out publications as fast as finances will permit. Recommends that as cost of producing pamphlets, and paying of transportation, allows too slight a margin of profit to carry on the work at this end, that price of all pamphlets, in quantities, be advanced from \$3 per hundred to \$3.50. Concluded in, and new price to take effect February 1, next. Subscriptions to the Weekly People are coming in slowly. Every party member should stir himself to push the Weekly People.

Election of N. E. C. members reported as follows: New Jersey, Ulrich Frueh; Illinois, Duncan B. McEachern; Maryland, Charles Becker; Ohio, P. C. Christiansen; California, O. M. Johnson; Connecticut, Chas. J. Mercer; Massachusetts, Thos. B. Brennan.

SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TREASURER OF THE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

TEE, S. L. P.

From the week ending June 24, 1905, to the week ending December 30, 1905:

RECEIPTS:	
By balance on hand, June 24, 1905	\$ 248.41
" dues stamps	62.65
" supplies	19.03
" Amsterdam Congress assessment	29.80
" N. A. F., old 1904 Massachusetts account	51.04
" General Agitation Fund	1,271.80
" Russian Revolutionists' Fund	166.75
" charter fees	8.00
" loan returned	4.00
" funds returned by speakers	138.20
Total	\$ 2,561.68

EXPENDITURES:

To salary of National Secretary, 27 weeks	\$ 486.00
" current expenses, postage, expressage, etc.	106.87
" agitation, speakers and organizers	1,197.84
" office rent	105.00
" printing	46.50
" office expenses	4.50
" Russian Revolutionists' Fund, Geneva & Brussels	189.67
" dues, International Socialist Bureau	38.70
" loan to Daily People	50.00
" collection fee on returned check	1.30
Total	\$ 2,226.38

Balance on hand, Dec. 30.

335.30

Total

\$ 2,601.68

Julius Eck, Treasurer, N. E. C. Sub-Committee.

A. L. Zimmerman, A. C. Kuhn,

Paul Augustine, John T. Vaughan,

—Auditors.

Henry Kuhn, National Secretary.

Teichlauf, Walsh and Olson were elected a committee to meet the New National Executive Committee at its session of January 7, 1906.

John Hossack, Recording Secretary.

LETTER BOX

(Continued from page five.)

challenge was ever received by De Leon

from I. Hourwitz, or anyone else, to debate Marx.

If any such challenge had been made it would have been published in these columns with De Leon's answer attached.

F. R. PATERSON, N. J.—The point has been amply covered in these columns. The arguments have been stated in extenso. The political Movement is not worth crossing the street for, unless backed up by the industrially organized Working Class. Assertions to the contrary won't do. Trot out arguments if you have any.

S. P., MELROSE, MINN.—With all charity for the memory of the martyrs of the Paris Commune, their move was in the nature of a craft Union strike. It was Paris alone, with the rest of France lying supine.

A. K., MILWAUKEE, WIS.—For instance—When The People published the New Bedford address "What Means This Strike?" and the S. L. P. put it in pamphlet form, objections went up from the Volkseitung Corporation ring that the address "deals entirely with the economic and not at all with the political movement." Particularly loud in his objection was one of the set, a worthy named Loewentrop, or some such name.

These people are so ignorant that they fail to see the economic foundation of political organization: they never digested Marx. And they are so vicious that they turn and seek to rend whomsoever knows better. Of course, their petty selfish interests stand in the way of their seeing. They simply don't belong to the Socialist Movement of America.

S. V., TERRE HAUTE, IND.—All that Belmont asks of you is to be blind. He will see to the rest.

H. S. I., BROOKLYN, N. Y.—When

the workingman annuls his marriage with the Volkseitung party, and the concern starts calling him names, the workingman should sing out to the words of the genial Sam Weller: "The very best intentions, as the gen'l'mn said when he ran away from his wife 'cos she seemed unhappy with him."

M. L. AND H. D., NEW YORK—

You are right. The People erred when it said that "both 'The Worker' and 'Volkseitung' refused publication to the sworn answer which the I. W. W. capmakers published." The sentence should read: "Both 'The Worker' and 'Volkseitung' refused publication to the signed denial, by the national organizer of the I. W. W., of the anonymous charges made by the A. F. of L. capmakers; and 'The Worker' also refused publication to the sworn answer which the I. W. W. capmakers published." Thanks for calling our attention to the inaccuracy, trifling, though it is.

The Industrial Worker

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF

THE INDUSTRIAL WORKERS OF THE WORLD
Will be published by the I. W. W. about January 1st, 1906
A Monthly Paper, sixteen pages, 64 columns.

Subscription Price:

FIFTY CENTS A YEAR

Address THE INDUSTRIAL WORKER
148 W. Madison Street, Chicago, Ill.

SECTION CALENDAR.

(Under this head we shall publish standing advertisements of Section headquarters, or other permanent announcements, at a nominal rate. The charge will be one dollar per line per year.)

Kings County General Committee—

Second and fourth Saturdays, 8 p. m., at Weber's Hall, corner of Throop avenue and Stockton street, Brooklyn.

General Committee, New York County—Second and fourth Saturday in the month, at Daily People building, 2-8 New Reade street, Manhattan.

Offices of Section New York County at Daily People building, 2-8 New Reade street, Manhattan.

Los Angeles, California. Section headquarters and public reading room at 205½ South Main street. Public educational meetings every Sunday evening. People readers are invited to our rooms and meetings.

San Francisco, Calif., S. L. P. headquarters and free reading room, No. 280 Jessie street. Open day and evening. All wage workers cordially invited.

Tacoma, Wash., Section headquarters and public reading room corner 12th and A street, room 304, over Post Office. Open every evening. All workingmen invited. Business meetings every Tuesday.

Section Providence, R. I., meets at 77 Dyer street, room 8. Something going on every Tuesday night at 8:00 p. m. 2nd and 4th regular business, others devoted to lectures and discussions. During the winter a Science Class every Wednesday night.

Section Indianapolis. Meetings first and third Tuesdays of each month, at 29½ South Delaware street, third floor.

Detroit, Mich., "Socialist Labor Auxiliary Reading Room, room 10 avenue Theatre Bldg., Woodward avenue. Open every evening. Sunday all day. Discussion upon interesting topics every Sunday.

Sec. Cleveland, Ohio, S. L. P. meets every first and third Sunday of month at 358 Ontario Street (Gen. Am. Bank Bldg.) top floor, at 2:30 P. M.

Sec. St. Louis, Mo., S. L. P. meets every second and fourth Friday of each month, 8 p. m., at Smith's Hall, 21st and Franklin ave., 3rd floor.

Spokane, Wash., Socialist Labor Party Headquarters, Free Reading Room, 217 Front avenue.

Watch the label on your paper. That will tell you when your subscription expires. First number indicates the month, second the day, third the year.

CHICAGO, ATTENTION!

To all readers of the Weekly People and the S. L. P. organs, residing in the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 29th, and 30th wards, and the towns of Stickney and Lemont, arouse and help increase the circulation of the Weekly People and help show up the hand of the tin horn gamblers, lawyers, preachers, and middle class freaks that pose as Socialists; and in their organs the "Chicago Socialist" and "Neues Leben," uphold the A. F. of H.—Il and its capitalist labor lieutenants. If you are ripe to join the S. L. P., please communicate with M. E. Kleminger, 4514 Lake avenue, Chicago, Ill.

HELP THIS ALONG.

Data is wanted on corporation methods in securing franchises, including evidences of bribery, collusion, evasion of taxes, stealing, etc. Newspaper clipping especially desirable. Kindly send such information to F. J. Boyle, Mailing Division, Boston P. O., Mass.

GENERAL AGITATION FUND.

The contributions to the above fund, designed to keep in the field S. L. P. organizers, were as follows during the week ending with Saturday, January 6, 1906:

W. H. Slater, Newport News, Va.

Albert Wanz, Superior, Wis.